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Letter dated 31 October 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the core principles adopted by the International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza at a meeting held on 6 and 7 October 2005, noting the global cooperation needed to address health emergencies (see annex).

I would appreciate it if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 120. A list of 89 countries associated with the Partnership, as well as other participants, is also attached.

(*Signed*) John R. **Bolton**
Ambassador

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Annex to the letter dated 31 October 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza Statement of core principles

The International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza (IPAPI) is committed to protecting hum and animal health as well as mitigating the global socioeconomic and security consequences of an influ pandemic. The partnership seeks to work with all concerned states to limit the spread of H5N1 avian fl any other highly pathogenic influenza strain by taking all necessary steps to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the growing threat.

Partners are concerned about the potential for large-scale outbreaks. As such, participants are committe the following principles to establish a more coordinated and effective basis for limiting the social, econ and health impacts of avian and pandemic influenza, consistent with national legal authorities and relev international law and frameworks.

Noting that enhanced global cooperation on avian and pandemic influenza will provide a template for g cooperation to address other types of health emergencies, we join together in our commitment to:

1. International cooperation to protect the lives and health of our people;

2. Timely and sustained high-level global political leadership to combat avian and pandemic influ

3. Transparency in reporting of influenza cases in humans and in animals caused by strains that ha pandemic potential, to increase understanding, preparedness and, especially to ensure rapid and timely response to potential outbreaks;

4. Immediate sharing of epidemiological data and samples with the World Health Organization (W and the international community to detect and characterize the nature and evolution of any outb as quickly as possible, by utilizing, where appropriate, existing networks and mechanisms

5. Rapid reaction to address the first signs of accelerated transmission of H5N1 and other highly pathogenic influenza strains so that appropriate international and national resources can be brou bear;

6. Prevent and contain an incipient epidemic through capacity building and in-country collaboratio with international partners;

7. Work in a manner complementary to and supportive of expanded cooperation with and appropri support of key multilateral organizations (WHO, Food and Agriculture Organization, World Organization for Animal Health);

8. Timely coordination of bilateral and multilateral resource allocations; dedication of domestic resources (human and financial); improvements in public awareness; and development of econo and trade contingency plans;

9. Increased coordination and harmonization of preparedness, prevention, response and containme activities among nations, complementing domestic and regional preparedness initiatives and encouraging where appropriate the development of strategic regional initiatives;

10. Actions based on the best available science.

Countries and international organizations that participated in the meeting of senior officials, International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza, 6 and 7 October 2005

Countries

Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Austria
Bangladesh
Belarus
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Brazil
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
Cameroon*
Canada
China (including Hong Kong Special Administrative Region)
Colombia
Costa Rica
Côte d'Ivoire*
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Egypt
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Israel*
Italy
Japan
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Latvia
Lebanon
Lesotho
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Madagascar
Malaysia
Malta
Marshall Islands
Mexico
Mongolia
Namibia*
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zeland
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Norway
Pakistan
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Samoa*
Senegal
Singapore
Slovakia
Slovenia
South Africa
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sweden
Switzerland
Thailand
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Timor-Leste*
Trinidad and Tobago
Turkey
Turkmenistan
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Ukraine
United States of America
Uruguay
Uzbekistan
Viet Nam

* Endorsed the partnership but unable to send a representative to the meeting.

Other participants

European Commission

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Holy See

Inter-American Development Bank

World Organization for Animal Health

United Nations

United Nations Development Programme

World Health Organization

World Bank